

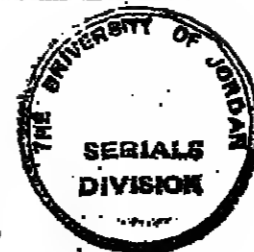


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King welcomes results of elections, says no decision yet on forming new, or reshuffling, government

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein said Tuesday the Kingdom's first multi-party elections in nearly four decades reflected the irreversible course of democracy that Jordan had adopted and expressed confidence the country was on the right course.

"I am proud of Jordan and Jordanians," the King told a press conference, shortly after Interior Minister Saleh Hamad formally announced the results of Monday's elections, which produced a Parliament dominated by independents. The King refused to characterize the new Parliament as pro-peace or anti-peace, and stressed that the continuation of the democratic process in Jordan was as important as the quest for a negotiated settlement with Israel.

The peace process started with the last Parliament and will continue with this Parliament here in a democratic country, and we all will cooperate to achieve best results," the King said.

"My commitment is for peace... a just peace, a lasting peace. My personal dream is a legacy that you can leave for future generations... peace with dignity... peace that ensures rights and makes all feel that they can all come together to en-

joy what has been denied them for such a long time."

"I am very, very happy indeed... about the results of the elections which reflected a high sense of responsibility among Jordanians," the King said. "We appealed to them to send the best of those who could represent them... and they did."

Some of the questions from the packed audience of local and international journalists covering the elections focused on one point — did the King now feel stronger and more confident that Jordan would go ahead with its peace negotiations with Israel, especially with a less vociferous Parliament with less rejectionists of the peace process represented by the Islamic Action Front (IAF)?

"I think Jordan is stronger," the King told one questioner. Asked whether he felt mosque preachers responded to his call to not mix politics with religion in houses of worship, the King said:

"I do believe that politics should be kept out of the mosques," the King said, because he did not believe that the theologians were aware of actual issues involved to be able to handle them at "responsible level."

"The house of God is for all of us to worship," he added.

The Jordanian response to our appeal," King Hussein said, reflected "trust, a trust



that goes two ways."

"I am very, very happy indeed with the response..." he added.

The King was asked whether Jordan felt a "threat" from the Islamists after they had been "sidelined" in the elections.

"There is no threat sir," the King said in an exasperated tone. "We are one people... Muslims and Christians in this country."

"If you are talking about (Islam as) a political movement, then that is something else. Every element of this country came together... four years ago and concluded something that is very, very important for this country — a National Charter — binding all of us. And so I don't see any problem."

The King was asked whether he was contemplat-

ing the idea of a party government, whereby he would ask the largest bloc in Parliament to form a cabinet — in this case the IAF, which won 16 seats in the 80-member Lower House.

"I doubt whether I would," the King said. "...the possibility is that of the best people being appointed... or may be a next government."

The King said an elected government was a possibility that could be realised in the next four or eight years and expressed hope that by then the 20 political parties in Jordan would have shrunk to "far less" and be more capable of producing definite programmes to be presented to the people.

At this point in time, however, "...the next phase is to form a new cabinet or make some changes in the present one, and then Parliament will hopefully vote its confidence in the government and we will proceed from there," the King said.

In response to a question, the King welcomed the success of a woman candidate in Monday's polls to become the first Jordanian woman to enter the Kingdom's Parliament and said he was "very happy about it."

The victory of Toujan Faisal, who won a seat set aside for Circassians in an Amman electoral district) is a "very, very important step in

(Continued on page 10)

The IAF's 'poor' showing was partly due to its own doing, but also to other factors

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Other than the obvious effects of introducing the one-person, one-vote electoral system on the showing of Islamists in the elections, their reduced strength in the 12th Parliament is the result of two factors: Basically a general trend among Jordanians to elect new deputies to represent them, and internal divisions and power struggle among the Islamic Action Front (IAF) itself, which is their main umbrella organisation.

The front, the political arm of the Muslim Brotherhood Movement, fielded 36 candidates in 17 electoral districts, but managed to gain only 16 seats across the Kingdom.

While not seen as a major setback for the front, which will remain the largest single politically-organised bloc in the 12th Parliament, the result indicated a net loss for the Islamists who were largely expected to win 18-20 seats in the Lower House.

Sources and well-informed observers are quick to explain that this result does not indicate that the IAF has lost among its constituency of de-

clined voters.

"They have kept a steady popular base," one observer said, citing the example of Zarqa where the Brotherhood in the 1989 elections won around 24,000 votes assumed to be the Islamists' base support. In Monday's elections the three top IAF candidates got a combined vote of 25,376 votes in that city. "If one deducts the extra tribal votes which went to one of the IAF candidates (Bassam Umoush from the Bani Hassan tribe) then it would be around the same number of votes as in 1989," the observer, who did not want to be identified by name, said.

But these election results are not without meaning. The IAF lost three of their most influential figures, two of whom contested the race in the Balqa District. They are former House Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat, former spokesperson for the Muslim Brotherhood's parliamentary bloc Ibrahim Khreisat, and Mohammad Abu Fares, a hawkish fundamentalist who ran in Amman's Fifth District.

The front this time is also less likely to find many allies

outside its own ranks in Parliament — except perhaps with the hardline — leftists on the Palestinian problem. The Brotherhood's satellite influence used to be a major factor at play in the 11th Parliament. Because the previous Lower House was elected according to the bloc-voting system, the Brotherhood was able to help some Christians and independents win hotly contested seats.

These "allies" regularly avoided controversial voting sessions in the House or facilitated a majority vote for Islamists on the social agenda of the Brotherhood, including issues like the segregation of sports facilities and swimming pools as well as banning alcohol in the Kingdom.

The projections for this Parliament indicate a diminished weight for the 16 IAF deputies, and the analysts believe that several factors have contributed to this change.

First, Jordanians paid little attention to candidates who invoked the Middle East peace process in their campaigns, preferring to cast their votes in favour of those they knew would serve them while deputies. But having

chosen candidates who are known for their good connections with the government — because they could provide them with services — they produced a Parliament that is less antagonistic to government policies and in turn to its policy on the Middle East process.

The analysts maintain that this trend among voters may have contributed to the reduced number of successful IAF candidates, who contested the elections on a campaign of rejection of the peace process and who at the same time had failed to provide solutions to national problems, like the economy and unemployment.

"When most Jordanians were becoming apathetic to large political slogans and largely concerned about day-to-day survival, the Islamists were still carrying banners calling for jihad (holy war)," one analyst said.

Thus the reduced political concern over grand political issues by Jordanians, largely helped by the application of the one-person, one-vote system, took away from the glamour of the Islamists'

(Continued on page 5)

King denies Israeli report that meeting is planned

By a Staff Reporter

IN HIS PRESS conference yesterday, His Majesty King Hussein denied reports from Israel that he was ready to meet Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in Washington next week.

"I can deny this information and I am not aware of any such arrangement," the King said. "I am due in the U.S. for a regular medical check-up in mid-January, and the trip would include Washington. But beyond that I do not know of any arrangement at this point in time."

The answer appeared to be in reply to comments by a senior Israeli foreign ministry official, carried by Agence France Presse, that his country was trying to arrange a meeting between the King and Mr. Rabin with a view to the King visiting Jerusalem. Mr. Rabin is scheduled to fly to Washington Wednesday

on a 10-day trip to the U.S.

At a different point during the press conference the King was asked "when" he will visit Jerusalem and meet with Mr. Rabin.

"All in good time," said the King, but he emphatically reaffirmed his position as a member of the Hashemite family and descendant of the Prophet Mohammad, that there cannot be any compromise over Jerusalem if anyone sought to exert sole control over the Holy City.

He reiterated that he would not accept any sovereignty over Jerusalem except that of God, but that in an atmosphere of peace and dialogue among the three monotheistic religions of the world a solution could be found where everyone's religious rights are protected.

The King was also asked on reported Syrian "criticism" of Jordan over the King-

dom's approach to the peace process and whether he had met with Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres as Israeli media claimed early this month.

"I have not been told of any Syrian criticisms of Jordanian policies," the King said. "Jordan does not criticise others for whatever policies they decide on."

"As far as Jordanian policies are concerned, (Jordan) is involved in a peace process, (and) it has its own concerns... it is an ongoing process, but beyond that I don't care to say anything."

Reaffirming Jordan's commitment to a comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East, the King reiterated his rejection of unilateral accords with Israel.

At the same time, he said, others involved in the peace process should also make an effort to make progress since Jordan cannot wait and will

not wait indefinitely for others to catch up.

Arafat statement

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat said in Brussels that "Jordan is going to sign, within a few days, a friendly agreement."

Information Minister Maan Abu Nowar, commenting on the report carried by international news agencies, said he was not aware of any such plan.

Mr. Peres said Tuesday the outcome of Monday's general elections in Jordan was a boost to Middle East peace moves.

AFP quoted Mr. Peres as saying that King Hussein had taken moves to accelerate democracy, adding that "in my view all progress towards democratisation is progress towards peace."



Toujan Faisal

Toujan Faisal's victory — history in the making

By Kathrine Rath

Special to the Jordan Times
AMMAN — Toujan Faisal's victory in Monday's elections, which made her the first woman ever to be elected to Parliament in the history of Jordan, marks a milestone in the political life of the Kingdom.

Ms. Faisal's success has finally put an end to male monopoly over the Lower House and political life in general, and has at the same time, shown a concrete sign of determination by women to establish themselves on the political map in Jordan.

Three weeks ago, the prognosis for Ms. Faisal's candidacy was rather poor. "My campaign started very modest," Ms. Faisal told the Jordan Times. The significant increase in support, which took place in the last couple

of weeks, can for a large part be attributed to the tireless efforts of a small group of volunteers, Ms. Faisal said.

Ms. Faisal projected herself not predominantly as a women's candidate but as a politician and an individual holding universally acceptable values. She thus managed to gain the confidence of both liberal women and men. According to Ms. Faisal, a slight majority of the votes cast for her were from women, but otherwise she had "all kinds of people" voting for her — Circassian as well as non-Circassian, Palestinians as well as Jordanians. "I got more male votes than some of the male candidates," she said.

She pointed to the fact that she won without a women's quota and despite the lack of party backing, capital and tribal support. This shows that there has been a drastic

change in people's attitudes over the past four years and can be taken as a sign of a greater political maturity, she said.

"People voted for her out of conviction," one of her campaigners said. The last rally Ms. Faisal held gathered an audience of some 1,500 people, another supporter told the Jordan Times. "We knew, then, that she was going to win," she added.

Ms. Faisal's triumph this year is a double victory, considering what happened to her when she stood for election in 1989. She was then targeted by Muslim fundamentalists who accused her of apostasy and asked the Islamic Court to order her divorce from her husband, the separation from her children, and gave immunity to anyone who shed her blood, while barring the media from publishing her articles. While

the court, in the end, dismissed the case as being outside its jurisdiction, Ms. Faisal lost the race.

Mr. Faisal, who is married to a doctor and is the mother of three, generally supports the two-year old Middle East peace process; she sees the need to work towards the institutionalisation of democracy through progressive legislation.

The newly-elected deputy is especially concerned about the promotion of human rights and justice. "This is what motivates me and what made me a politician," she said.

"I have always been interested in legislation," added Ms. Faisal, who holds a master's degree in English language and literature. "My father was a lawyer... and I was brought up in a legal atmosphere."

"Very early, I became aware of the difference between law and justice," she said, adding that "we have many laws which are unjust here in Jordan." Ms. Faisal said that she is well versed in the Sharia and pointed out that she has studied closely large parts of the legislation, including the passport law and the laws on citizenship. She wants to work for the introduction of laws which will safeguard political freedom, pointing specifically to the right to organise, and "all kinds of freedom."

Asked how she sees the possibility of introducing change through the Parliament, considering that many see the power allocated to the legislative branch as being insufficient, Ms. Faisal said that "there is not a lack of power, but a lack of understanding of the power of the parliamentarians." She said

that she would pursue the way for a new parliamentary approach to affect change. "If I follow the old method, everything will be a failure again," she said.

Ms. Faisal has a long experience in public life. She worked for 18 years in television and used to present a series on women affairs. She is also a writer and a columnist. Through her political activity she has participated in numerous conferences and has often been exposed to the situation of being the only woman among men. Her status in the new Parliament does not scare her. "I have been working in this line for so many years," she said, adding that though she is fully aware of her role as a woman, she knows what burden her new role as a deputy will place upon her as an individual and politician.

هذه ايامنا

Profiles of newly elected members of 12th Parliament

AMMAN (J.T.) — Interior Minister Saleh Hammad Tuesday announced the results of the general elections held in Jordan Monday, noting that the total number of registered voters was 1,501,972, of whom 820,116 cast ballots.

The voters, he said, accounted for 68.15 per cent of the number of citizens who collected their voting cards.

Addressing a press conference, the minister said that the government had provided all possible facilities for the success of the election process.

Mr. Hammad thanked the various organisations and government departments for their cooperation and the voters who shouldered their national responsibility and exercised their right to vote.

Following are brief profiles of 40 of the newly-elected members of the 12th Lower House of Parliament. The rest will appear in tomorrow's issue.

* Denotes freshman members.

Abdul Aziz Jabr (IAF)

First District, Amman

Born in Hatta, near Falouja in occupied Palestine in 1932, obtained his B.A. in Islamic law from Damascus University and served as a teacher with the Ministry of Education until 1982 when he retired.



Hammad Abu Jamous (Mustakbal)*

First District, Amman

Born in Amman. Finished school in 1958 and obtained his degree in engineering from the United Kingdom in 1961. He served in several private sector posts.



Abdul Munem Abu Zant (IAF)

Second District, Amman

Born in 1935, studied Islamic Sharia at Al Azhar University in Egypt where he obtained his B.A. He received his master's degree in Islamic law from Pakistan.



Hamzeh Mansour (IAF)

Second District, Amman

Born in Al Mansi Haifa district in occupied Palestine in 1944, finished his secondary education in Irbid and graduated from Huwara Community College and later from Beirut Arab University in 1976 in Arabic language. He obtained a masters degree in education from the University of Jordan in 1984. He worked as a school teacher and head teacher at the Ministry of Education schools from 1965 until 1989.



Mohammad Ahmad Al Thuweib (Independent)*

Second District, Amman

Born in Taanreh near Bethlehem in 1941, finished secondary education in Bethlehem in 1960, obtained a B.A. in arts from Beirut Arab University in 1967, and higher studies diploma at the University of Jordan 1984. He worked as a teacher for 24 years. He served as a member of the Lower House of Parliament between 1984 and 1988.



Taher Al Masri (Independent)

Third District, Amman

Born in Nablus, in the West Bank, in 1942, and obtained his secondary school certificate from Al Najah Secondary School. Received his B.A. from Texas University, U.S., in 1965. He served in senior government posts, including prime minister. He was a member of Parliament in 1973 and served twice as minister of foreign affairs.



All Abu Ragheb (Independent)*

Third District, Amman

Born in Amman in 1946, and obtained his B.Sc. in civil engineering from the United States in 1967. He served in several posts since 1967, including positions at the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and Amman Municipality. He was also president of the Contractors Association between 1986 and 1990. He served as minister of industry and trade, supply and energy and mineral resources between 1991 and 1993.



Toujan Faisal (Independent)*

Third District

Born in Amman in 1948, obtained her B.A. in English from the University of Jordan in 1970, and her M.A., also from the University of Jordan, in 1990. She worked at Jordan Television as a producer and broadcaster of cultural programmes, then for the Ministry of Social Development and Noor Al Hussein Foundation. She is a columnist for Shihan Arabic weekly.



Mohammad Hneiti (Independent)*

Fourth District, Amman

Born in Abu Alanda in 1934, he studied in Amman and obtained his B.A. from Baghdad University. He was most recently mayor of Abu Alanda.

Hamam Saeed (IAF)

Fifth District, Amman

Born in Kafer Race, West Bank, in 1944, and completed secondary school in Zarqa in 1962. He received an Islamic Sharia degree from Damascus University in 1966. He was a teacher at the Islamic College in Amman until 1971. He obtained his master's degree in Hadith from Al Azhar University in 1974 and his doctorate in Hadith also from Al Azhar in 1979. He received a degree in comparative religions from Temple University in the U.S. in 1979 and has written many books and articles on Islam.

Mifteh Al Lawzi (Independent)*

Fifth District, Amman

Born in 1935, he completed his schooling until the seventh grade. He became mayor of Jubeiha between 1963 and 1986. He was member of the National Consultative Council in 1980.

Dr. Abdul Hafez Shakhaneh*

Sixth District, Madaba

Born in Jideideb in 1950, he obtained his doctorate in medicine in Moscow in 1975. He has worked in private practice as a physician.

Jamal Khreisheh (Independent)

Seventh District

Born in Muwaqqar in 1938 and served in the Armed Forces until his retirement as brigadier. He served in several military posts, including assistant to the Armed Forces inspector general. He was appointed member of the Senate and served as member of the previous Parliament, representing the central bedouins. He served as minister of state in the Taher Al Masri government of 1991 and later in the Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker government.

Mohammad Adoub Al Zaben (Independent)

Central Bedouins

Born in 1943. He holds a B.Sc. in medicine and held several government posts, including physician at Al Bashir Hospital and at Madaba Health Centre. He also served as minister of municipal and rural affairs and minister of health in 1989.

Ahmad Kofahi (IAF)

Irbid District

Born in Irbid in 1939, obtained his B.A. in Islamic law from Damascus University and masters and doctorate degrees in Sharia from Al Azhar University. He worked as a teacher for the Ministry of Education and lecturer at Yarmouk University and the University of Jordan.

Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh (Yaqatheh Party)

Irbid District

Born in Sarih in 1939, he holds a B.Sc. in pharmacy from the American University of Beirut. He served with the health ministry in several posts and later became minister of communications in 1976, minister of health in 1979 and mayor of Amman until 1989.

Aref Bataineh (Independent)*

Irbid District

Born in Barha near Irbid in 1931, he was educated at Beir Zeit University and obtained a diploma in science from the American University of Beirut. He received a B.Sc. in medicine from London University in 1960. Since then, he worked with the Jordanian Armed Forces, and in 1980 he was appointed director of the Al Hussein Medical Centre. In 1990, he became director of the Royal Medical Services and later became minister of health in the Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker government.

Dr. Saleh Ishkhal (Independent)*

Irbid District

Born in Irbid in 1940, he completed his elementary school in Irbid and his secondary school in Egypt where he got a B.Sc. in engineering in 1970. In 1975 he worked as a teacher at an engineering college in Germany and obtained his doctorate in Germany in 1978. He worked for the private sector from 1975 until he assumed a ministerial post. He was minister of youth in the government of Zeid Ben Shaker in 1991.

Dr. Abdul Raouf Tharab

Irbid District

Born in Irbid in 1939, he obtained his B.A. in medicine from Amman University. He worked for the Jordanian Armed Forces and as a general practitioner in Irbid with Irbid Municipality before he was elected as mayor of Irbid several times. He held several ministerial posts, including minister of municipal and rural affairs and the environment in 1991.

Abdul Rafeh 'Awar (IAF)

Irbid District

Born in Irbid near Irbid in 1939, he obtained a B.A. in Islamic law from Damascus University in 1966. He worked as director of research and director of preaching at the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Islamic Affairs. He taught in several universities.

Muhammad Abu Al Ghazal (Independent)*

Irbid District

Born in Hama in 1941, he completed his schooling at Hama, Ramallah and Amman. He holds a medical degree from Italian universities and served as head of the surgery section at Princess Basma Hospital in Irbid. He served in the 12th Lower House of Parliament.

Bassam Haddadin (IAF)

Irbid District

Born in Zarqa in 1954, obtained his doctorate in Islamic law from Mohammad Ben Saud University in Riyadh in 1984. He served as a lecturer at Riyadh University between 1984 and 1986, as well as at the Sharia College at the University of Jordan in 1986 and as mosque preacher in Zarqa.

Three Ali (IAF)

Zarqa District

Born in Zarqa in 1947, in occupied Palestine. He worked as a mosque preacher at the Mosque of Anqaf between 1984 and 1986.

Mohammad Al Haj (IAF)

Zarqa District

Born in Jenin in 1951, finished high school in Nablus. He obtained his B.A. at the Sharia College at the University of Jordan, his masters degree in Islamic religion from Riyadh and a doctorate from Mohammad Ben Saud University in Riyadh. He worked as a teacher in Zarqa between 1975 and 1978. He was a lecturer at the University of Jordan between 1981 and 1989.



Sheikh Abdul Baqi Jammo (Independent)

Zarqa District

Born in Zarqa in 1922, studied in Zarqa, Sweileh and Salt. He graduated from Azhar University in 1952 and worked as a mosque preacher. He was elected to Parliament several times.



Bassam Haddadin (HASHD)

Zarqa District

Born in Ma'in, south of Madaba, completed his secondary education in Zarqa. He was one of the leaders of the Jordanian Students Movement while studying abroad (1970-76).



Dr. Abdullah Alkaleh (IAF)

Tafleh District

Born in Aimah in Tafleh governorate, he attended secondary school in Tulkarem in the West Bank and received a B.A. in management from the University of Jordan in 1975. He got his masters from the University of Southern California (USC) in 1978 and his doctorate in management from USC in 1982. He served as minister of education.



Mohammad Aweidah (IAF)*

Balqa District

Born in Faloujeh in 1947, he obtained a B.A. in Sharia from the University of Jordan in 1969 and M.A. and doctorate degrees from Azhar University in 1973. He worked as a teacher for the Ministry of Education between 1969 and 1976. Since 1970, he worked as a professor of Sharia at the University of Jordan.



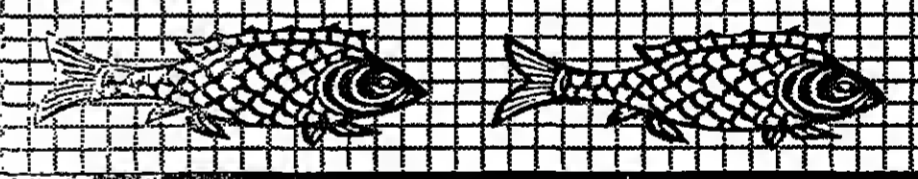
Hashem Dabbas (Independent)*

Balqa District

Born in Salt, obtained his B.A. in commerce from Cairo University and masters and doctorate degrees from the U.S. in 1963. He served as director of the Department of Statistics in 1970 and later as Ministry of Industry and Trade secretary general until 1980. He became head of the Audit Bureau.



(Continued on page 5)



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WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition of recent paintings by artist Ammar Khammash at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh. Also showing, the permanent exhibition (Saturday-Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.)
- ★ Art exhibition by a group of artists at Orfali Art Gallery (telephone 643251/2).
- ★ Art exhibition by artist Mustafa Ali at Baladna Art Gallery.
- ★ Art exhibition by artist Sa'idi Al Ka'bi at Alia Art Gallery (9:30-13:30 and 1500-1800).
- ★ Art exhibition by artist Mohammad Al Jaloo at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by artist Mohammad Abu Zraq entitled "Views" at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of ceramics and coloured glass by artists Khalid Mahabneh and Basal Tarawneh at the Royal Cultural Centre.

SPORTS ROUND-UP

- ★ A one-hour programme featuring a condensed edition of the most popular football games of the week with live play announcement at the American Center at 7 p.m.

FILMS

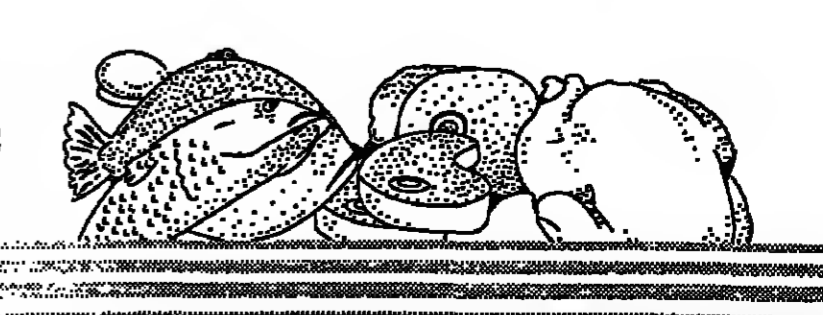
- ★ Feature film entitled "Jane Eyre - Part 2" at the Council at 7:00 p.m. (12 minutes)

LECTURES

- ★ Lecture in Arabic entitled "The Role of the Traditional Engineering in Heritage Conservation" by the Cultural Resources Management team from the Department of Antiquities at the Jordan Engineers' Association at 7 p.m.

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OPENING THURSDAY



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Focus on real issue

THE FOCUS on the performance of the Islamic Action Front in Monday's parliamentary elections as the main issue is slightly out of focus since there was more to the 1993 campaign than just to gauge the strength or weakness of any single political party. True the Islamists did worse this time than in 1989, which led to the unnecessary interpretation that the loss meant a decisive blow to their political clout. As a matter of fact, what any political party achieved Monday including the front is perhaps closer to their real strength than what was manifested in the last elections for the Lower House of Parliament.

The unscientific basis upon which the 1989 elections were held contributed to a lopsided show of parliamentary prowess. The previous elections were held without the benefit of political parties with the exception of the Islamists which had capitalised on the fact that they operated the only viable and organised political party in that period. Then there was the issue of the one-person, multiple-votes scheme that characterised the old election law, something that provided multiple windows of opportunities to some candidates to secure a place for themselves in the House, not necessarily commensurate with their popular support. A major correction took place this year when a different piece of legislation was adopted. The real strength of candidates and the political groupings to which they belong could only be tested under the new criteria, even though the new law itself is flawed and needs to be changed by the 12th Parliament.

But this is neither the primary issue nor the principal message filtering out of the elections. Something greater and more profound emerged from the way Jordanians cast their votes in the free and orderly elections. As His Majesty King Hussein commented in his press conference in the wake of the official declaration of the results of the elections, Jordan does not operate on the basis of cooperating with some political currents and the exclusion of others. This country belongs to all Jordanians no matter what their political ideology is.

Jordanians have made their choice and clearly opted for moderation and centrist policies. This choice must be given a chance to vindicate itself in the course of the next four years.

There is a new beginning in the country and how Jordanians and other factors impact on the new situation may very well seal the future of pluralistic democracy in Jordan and elsewhere in the region for many decades to come. Everybody has a stake in the success of the new chapter in Jordan's history because the stakes have wider proportions and implications than the immediate Jordanian theatre. Let's hope that the upcoming weeks and months would pave the way for a successful four years of parliamentary life in the Kingdom.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL DUSTOUR Tuesday said that Jordan achieved success through the parliamentary elections which proved the Jordanians and their country totally oriented towards democracy. The elections were carried out in total freedom and the results reflected the free and fair handling of the process, thanks to the endeavours of the government and the awareness of the public, said the daily. We are today more proud of our country than ever before and take pride in our leader and our people who are keen on enhancing the march of democracy and freedom and respect for human rights, added the paper. The paper said that congratulations should go not only to those who won in the elections and will sit in Parliament for the next four years, but rather to all the Jordanian people who helped make the democratic march a real success in this country. The paper said that thanks to the voters and their real determination to contribute to the success of their country's democratic march the results were so clear and so fair to all sectors and all candidates. With the success of the elections, added the daily, Jordan is being looked on by other Arab countries with more respect and more admiration.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily Tuesday said that the Jewish settlers' acts of terrorism directed at Arab people of Palestine are clear indications that the PLO-Israeli deal struck on Sept. 13, was built on sand rather than on solid rock. Saidah Abdu said that the settlers are going on a rampage every day, burning and destroying Arab homes and assaulting Palestinian citizens with help and support from the Israeli armed forces. The writer said that these acts of violence raise a big question mark concerning the possibility of peaceful co-existence between the Palestinian and the Israeli peoples, especially with the continued Jewish settlers living amidst the Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The Israeli government and the PLO leadership are called on to find a lasting settlement and not a temporary one.

Voter apathy not only reason for 32 per cent abstention

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordanians largely lived up to expectations by registering a turnout of 68 per cent in Monday's elections to produce a Parliament dominated by traditionally loyalist tribal leaders and centrists.

Three distinct reasons were seen behind the high turnout: — Those who were apathetic to the November 1989 elections realised that the turn that Jordan took four years ago towards democratisation is irreversible and, as a result, an awareness that each vote is precious and should not be wasted away.

— Many of the candidates were from medium-sized clans and families who applied their own mathematics and reached the conclusion that the one-person, one-vote system favoured candidates with an assured minimum number of votes. Subsequently, many Jordanians were persuaded not only to go through the exercise of registering and collecting voting cards but also to actually exercise their right to vote because of close family or clan links or social ties with the candidate.

— Another reason cited by most observers was the call that His Majesty King Hussein issued Saturday on all voters to exercise their right to vote as an unshirkable national duty.

The call was seen to have

dislodged thousands from their apathy regarding voting, even though they had collected their voting cards, particularly in the traditionally loyalist tribal areas.

On the other hand, reasons for the abstention of the 32 per cent from the voting process included:

— Many families registered the names of all its members included in the family registration book and collected voting cards although some of the voters were not present in the country.

— Many voters were simply not interested in voting although their families did register them as voters and collected their cards.

— Intentional "disappearance" of voting cards done by candidates who sought to preempt their rivals gaining votes. The tactic is mostly based on an assessment of the concerned voters' preference and, in many cases, candidates were accused of simply hiding the cards of those whose votes were not assured for them.

As one election observer put it, it is a "law of elimination — a vote denied to a rival is a vote gained by me."

The net picture that emerges after adjusting the possible additions and subtractions based on these considerations would indicate that voter apathy could not be directly blamed for the entire 32 per cent abstention.

Figures released by the

Ministry of Interior after polls closed on time at 7 p.m., following 12 hours of voting in the 20 electoral districts, showed that 821,000 of the 1,203 million voters who had collected the voting cards had cast their ballots in the Kingdom's first multiparty elections in nearly four decades.

The total number of registered voters in the Kingdom, from among the 5.2 million population in 1989, was 1.51 million while the total number of eligible voters — all those above the age of 19 — was around 1.8 million before excluding members of the security forces who are not allowed to vote.

The figures for the elections to the 12th Parliament of Jordan could be compared to those of 1989, the Kingdom's first general elections in 22 years.

Total population: four million; total number of Jordanians above the voting age: 1.9 million; registered voters: 1.51 million; voters who collected their voting cards: 1,203 million; final turnout on election day: 821,000.

The nearly 70 per cent turnout proved out the finding of a study conducted early this year by the Centre for Strategic Studies of the University of Jordan.

That poll also found that a majority of voters would vote for candidates seen as capable of delivering services and addressing the infrastructural needs of their con-



stituencies rather than those raising lofty political slogans.

The voting process had a slow start, with a depressing 45 per cent reported by 3 p.m., prompting the King, during a round of the election centres and facilities, to express hope that "those who have not cast their ballots for some reason would move immediately."

Complaints were heard from some voters that they were not allowed to vote since they were registered in more than one voting district. But polling officials later said they were instructed to allow voters with dual registration

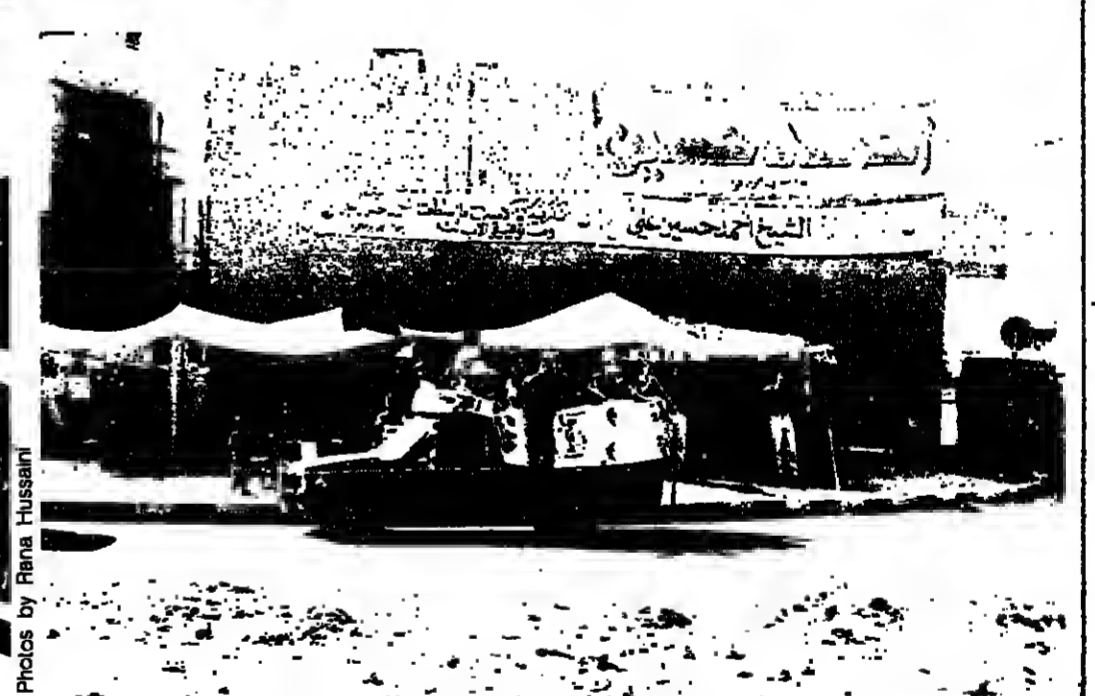
to cast their ballots as long as they voted only once.

Earlier, officials had said that 70,000 names appeared in more than one constituency in the final voters list, but that the Ministry of Interior had informed polling officials of the duplication.

Other voters complained that they were denied of their right to vote because unknown elements had collected their voting cards without their knowledge or consent. Some voters said polling officials refused to allow them to vote even though their names were on the list but they did not have their

voting cards. Ministry of Interior sources had said that some groups were buying voting cards and destroying them, but added that the ministry was under instruction to issue new voting cards to those who could not locate the document.

A handful of deputies in the 11th Parliament had sought to legislate mandatory voting for all eligible voters, as is the case in several countries. But the move was killed by other legislators who argued that it would be undemocratic since it meant "imposing an obligation" on the voters.



Photos by Rana Hussain

Welcome winds of change are blowing over Jordan

By Albert Mokhiber

Having just flown into Amman Monday night with a delegation from the United States, we were able to witness the historic restoration of free multi-party elections in Amman.

I was also able to watch the election results which were updated live all through the night, on Jordan Television.

Many Americans, especially those of us of Arab ancestry, have been watching with a great deal of anticipation the democratic reforms that have begun in Jordan and to varying degrees in other Arab nations. Thus, the multi-party elections held on Monday were not only a major step forward for Jordanians, but for all Arabs. Hopefully, these wel-

come winds of change will blow across the region, opening a new era of political rights and opportunities.

Of course, one must be careful not to confuse the mere existence of elections with democracy. Many elections are held in nations which have very little, if any, real democracy. There is no pure definition of what a democracy must be,

and western examples are neither perfect nor exclusive models.

Democracy for the most part is about institutions. Independent branches of government, citizen groups, a free press, human rights organisations, political and national rights are but a few of the essential organs and guarantees of democratic states. How they evolve and are established is a question for each society to answer.

Ironically, while the Jordanian press impartially reported on the election results, CNN, the omnipresent reminder of America, focused with apparent glee on the "defeat of Muslim fundamentalists" rather than on the victory of Jordanian democracy for all its citizens. Little attention was paid to the hundreds of candidates, dozens of parties, including women and minorities, running for elections.

Not unlike most voters throughout the world, the Jordanian electorate placed more emphasis on local issues than on foreign policy. Rather than just a referendum on the Arab-Israeli peace talks, the voters cast their ballots on issues of economics, jobs,

education and various social issues.

The newly-elected Jordanian politicians will soon learn what most elected officials learn, namely that campaign promises which lead to electoral victory will soon lead to electoral defeat if not kept. The finality of public accountability is perhaps the most sobering of all democratic realities for

those elected and the most important recourse for those who elect. Perhaps our return trip to Jordan will find these new and wonderful concerns shared by more in the region.

The writer is president of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee. He contributed this article to the Jordan Times.



Profiles of parliamentarians

(Continued from page 3)

Abdullah Ensour (Independent)

Balqa District

Born in Salt in 1939, obtained his B.Sc. from the American University of Beirut, a masters from Wayne State University in 1965 and a doctorate in human resources planning from Sorbonne University in Paris. He served as director general of the Budget Department, director of Income Tax Department and in several ministerial posts.



Samir Kawar (Independent)

Balqa District

Born in Salt in 1934, he received his masters degree in agricultural equipment design from Texas University. He worked as an engineer in Deir Alla Agricultural Project and in the phosphate mines in Al Hassa. He became minister of water and irrigation in the government of Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker.



Fawzi Tuaima (Independent)

Balqa District

Born in Fubais in 1945, he holds a B.A. in arts from the University of Jordan and masters and doctorate degrees in psychology from the United States.



Mansour Ben Tarif (Independent)*

Karak District

Born in Madaba in 1939, obtained a B.A. in agriculture in 1961 from the American University of Beirut (AUB) and an M.A. in economics in 1963 also from AUB. He served with the Agricultural Credit Corporation from 1963 until 1966, then as deputy director of the corporation until 1982. He served at the Ministry of Post and Communications.



Ahmad Kasasbeh (IAF)*

Karak District

Born in Karak in 1944, he obtained a B.A. in law from Beirut Arab University and worked in the Ports Corporation and the Railway Corporation.



Jamal Sarairah (Independent)

Karak District

Born in Al Hashemieh, near Karak in 1954, he finished his schooling in Karak in 1971 and obtained his B.A. from Kuwait University in 1976; he worked for ARAMCO from 1980 until 1983, and the Tapline Company until 1989. He served as minister of post and communications in the governments of Mudar Badran and Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker.



Awad Khleifat (Independent)*

Ma'an District

Born in Wadi Mousa in 1945, he obtained a B.A. in history from the University of Jordan in 1967, and a doctorate from London University in 1973. He worked as chairman of the University of Jordan's History Department before becoming Yarmouk University vice president and later Muta University President and minister of youth. He became minister of higher education in the government of Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker in 1991.



Abdul Karim Al Kabariti (Independent)

Ma'an District

Born in Amman in 1949, he finished school there and studied geological engineering at the American University of Beirut. He obtained a B.A. from St. Edwards University in Texas, U.S., and served in several private sector firms. He became minister of labour in the government of Mudar Badran in 1989 and in 1990.



Abdul Karim Al Dughmi (Independent)

Ma'raq District

Born in Ma'raq in 1955, he completed his schooling in 1973, and obtained a B.A. in law in 1977. He worked as a lawyer since his graduation and became minister of labour in the government of Mudar Badran in 1989.



Abdullah Akhu Irsheidh (Independent)*

Ma'raq District

Born in Rahab, near Ma'raq in 1929, finished his secondary schooling in Amman and obtained a B.A. in law from Damascus University. He served in several administrative posts between 1965 and 1986 and became district governor at the Ministry of Interior in 1968. He served in 1978 as a member of the National Consultative Council.



Saad Hayel Al Sour (Independent)

Northern Bedoules

Born in 1947, he obtained his B.A. in civil engineering from Riyadh University in 1970, and worked for Amman Municipality and in several Saudi Arabian companies until 1981. He became a member of the National Consultative Council. He served as minister of water and irrigation in the Mudar Badran government of 1989 and as minister of public works and housing in the Tuher Al Masi government of 1991, and later in the 1991 government of Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker.



Issues will change in House

(Continued from page 1)

with in facing a House where 23 seats were filled by the Brotherhood, 10 by its supporters and many others by deputies who were expected to be replaced by having to face "independent deputies" with different priorities and concerns.

"I think the coming House will be very lively," said one observer. With so many new faces and new priorities, observers believe the House will be as "colourful" as its predecessor. Only the issues will undergo change, they say.

Breakdown of parties in new Parliament

The Islamic Action Front

Abdul Aziz Jabr (Amman's First District)
Abdul Munem Abu Zant (Amman's Second District)
Hamzeh Mansour (Second District)
Ibrahim Zeid Keilani (Amman's Third District)
Hamam Saeed (Amman's Fifth District)
Ahmad Kasasbeh (Karak)
Suleiman Al Saad Rimoni (Jerash)
Daifallah Al Momani (Ajloun)
Mohammad Oweida (Balqa)
Badr Riasi (Ma'an, Aqaba)
Bassam Omoush (Zarqa)
Mohammad Al Haj (Zarqa)
Deeb Anis (Zarqa)
Abdullah Akaleh (Tafilah)
Ahmad Kofahi (Irbid)
Abdul Rahim Akour (Irbid)

Independent Islamists

Deeb Hattab (First District)
Abdul Majid Aqtash (Amman's Sixth District, Madaba)
Abdul Razzaq Theishat (Irbid)
Jamal Sarairah (Karak)
Mahmoud Hweimel (Karak)

Leftists

Bassam Haddadin, Jordan People's Democratic Party (Hashd) (Zarqa, Christian seat)
Khalil Haddadin, the Jordanian Ba'th Arab Socialist Party (pro-Iraq) (Third District, Christian seat)
Abdul Hafez Shekanbeh (independent leftist) (Sixth District)
Abdul Karim Dughmi (independent leftist) (Ma'raq)
Mohammad Dawoudieh (independent pan-Arab leftist) (Tafilah)
Samir Habashneh (independent pan-Arab leftist) (Karak)
Mustafah Shneikat (the Jordanian Socialist Democratic Party) (Balqa)

Centrist parties

Abdul Hadi Al Majali ('Ahd Party) (Karak)
Hamam Abu Jamous (Al Mustaqbal Party) (First District)
Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh (Al Yaqatheh Party) (Irbid)

The rest are independents

IAF's 'poor' showing due to many factors

(Continued from page 1)

message which tended to address the larger than daily life concerns of the common citizen.

Second, which is actually what hurt the front most, is the power struggle between its prominent personalities, and between its moderates and hawks, which affected their campaign strategy at its inception and forced it to field more candidates than it could realistically support in the different districts, the analysts said.

Third, the Islamists lost ground by its sluggish start in the election campaign. The front was expecting the government to postpone elections until after the Palestinians have held their own elections for the legislative council in the occupied territories. The front, therefore, lost valuable time in preparing better for the campaign, just like other political groups in the country did, according to the analysts.

Drawing up their candidates' list on the assumption that the elections would be postponed, the IAF tried to pacify all the conflicting forces within it by naming as many candidates as possible. When the King announced that the elections were to be held on time, the front simply could not withdraw its list, which also damaged its chances.

The high number of candidates reflected especially negatively in areas where the voting strength of the front's constituents alone could not guarantee their success. In these areas, the front had to depend on the added weight of the candidates' tribal base or voter constituency, a policy that sometimes backfired.

The front failed, analysts also believe, in estimating the

"outside votes" that their candidates could win in districts where strong tribal sentiments largely determined the results in the elections.

This was especially evident in the Balqa district where Dr. Arabiyat did not receive strong support even from his own big family "because he became a symbol for the front and not the Arabiyats."

This was also the case in Amman's Fifth District, usually identified as an Islamist hawk's stronghold, where Mr. Abu Fares lost to a fellow IAF candidate and three strong tribal-based candidates. His dependence on a "Palestinian" base did not work, because, according to sources in that district, "Jordanians of Palestinian origin placed their weight behind a tribal candidate who

they felt was closer to them than Mr. Abu Fares."

Some analysts believe that this pattern of finding alternatives to Islamist deputies whether in tribal areas or Palestinian-dominated areas, was also an "indication of emerging social powers" which want to find their place in the political scene alongside the Islamists.

The analysts point to the Balqa camp, an area that holds three distinctly different groups, as an example of the new mood among constituents.

"The Baqaa refugee camp, which used to be a vote bank for the Salt residents, elected its own two deputies — one of them a headline Islamist — to represent its interests," an analyst observed. In that same district, the Jordan Valley, which also usually voted

in support of the city candidates, "chose its own deputy to Parliament."

"The Islamists can no longer bank on the support of conservatives outside its ranks," the analyst said.

Parallel to these different forces, and perhaps another catalyst that undermined the front's strength, was the growing belief among voters that the front "is a political body" that can be legitimately challenged. "People and politicians no longer feared their 'religious' power after four years in Parliament and even joining a coalition with one government," one observer said. "Before 1989, the Brotherhood was considered a sacred cow by many. But after watching their performance in Parliament, (the Islamists) looked just like any other political parties."



Instituto
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CONVOCA PARA SU INSTITUTO EN AMMAN, BEIRUT Y DAMASCO EL SIGUIENTE PUESTO:

JEFE DE ESTUDIOS (Ref.: Cje/7)

REQUISITOS

Español como lengua materna.
Licenciatura en Filología. Esta titulación podrá ser sustituida por cualquier otra licenciatura siempre que el candidato cuente con una experiencia docente de español como lengua extranjera de 500 horas desarrolladas en dos años lectivos como mínimo y con dos años de experiencia en Jefatura de Estudios.
Amplia experiencia en la didáctica del español como lengua extranjera.
Capacidad de liderazgo pedagógico y dotes de organización.

SE VALORARA

Filología Hispánica
Cursos de didáctica de lenguas extranjeras recibidos, y especialmente de postgrado en didáctica del español como lengua extranjera.
Experiencia en puesto similar
Experiencia en formación del profesorado
Conferencias y ponencias en congresos, cursos y seminarios sobre la didáctica de lenguas extranjeras
Experiencia en la elaboración de materiales didácticos sobre la enseñanza de lenguas extranjeras.
Publicaciones sobre didáctica de lenguas
Conocimiento del idioma del país de destino y de otros idiomas.
Conocimiento de la cultura y la sociedad del país de destino y así como de la cultura y sociedad de los países hispanohablantes.

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Retribución bruta anual: 7.400.000 pts.
Contrato laboral temporal.
Formación a cargo del Instituto.

DOCUMENTACION REQUERIDA

Los candidatos deberán presentar su currículo mecanografiado y elaborado de acuerdo con el siguiente esquema:

Datos personales, dirección y teléfono
Titulación académica, especificando 1º, 2º y 3º ciclo.

Historial profesional:

- Experiencia docente, especificando institución, fechas y número de horas impartidas
- Cursos recibidos de didáctica de lenguas extranjeras, especificando institución organizadora, contenido, duración y, en su caso, calificación obtenida.
- Experiencia en puesto similar, indicando institución y duración.
- Experiencia en formación del profesorado, indicando institución y tipo de actividad
- Conferencias y ponencias en congresos, cursos y seminarios sobre enseñanza de lenguas extranjeras, especificando fecha e institución organizadora.
- Publicaciones:
 - Libros, artículos o ponencias, con indicación de título, fecha, número de páginas.
 - Publicación de materiales didácticos, especificando título, contenido, editorial y año
- Nivel de conocimiento del idioma del país de destino y de otros, en su caso, acreditados documentalmente.

El currículo y los documentos acreditativos serán enviados a la siguiente dirección: Centro Cultural Español. Mohammad Hafiz Ma'at, 10 P.O.Box 815467, Ammán, hasta el día 25.11.1993, en sobre cerrado y certificado, indicando la referencia del puesto al que se opta.

Solamente serán admitidas las solicitudes que se atengan al esquema indicado y que acrediten documentalmente cada uno de los requisitos y méritos. Los documentos en otros idiomas deberán ir acompañados de su correspondiente traducción oficial al idioma español.



Instituto
Cervantes

CONVOCA PARA SU INSTITUTO EN AMMAN LOS SIGUIENTES PUESTOS:

2 PROFESORES A TIEMPO PARCIAL (Ref: CP17)

Requisitos:

Licenciatura en Filología. Esta titulación podrá ser sustituida por cualquier otra licenciatura siempre que el candidato cuente con una experiencia docente de español como lengua extranjera de 500 horas desarrolladas en dos años lectivos como mínimo.
Dominio del español equivalente al de un nativo.
Experiencia de enseñanza del español como lengua extranjera (mínimo de 300 horas lectivas, para el caso de licenciados en Filología).

Se valorara:

Experiencia en puestos similares.
Conocimiento del idioma, la cultura y la sociedad del país de destino, así como de la cultura y sociedad de los países hispanohablantes.
Cursos impartidos sobre didáctica de lenguas.
Cursos de formación en didáctica de lenguas.
Experiencia en elaboración de materiales didácticos sobre la enseñanza de lenguas extranjeras.
Publicaciones sobre didáctica de lenguas.

Se ofrece:

Retribución bruta anual: 22.220 D. USA referida a tiempo completo. Para tiempo parcial se calculará la retribución correspondiente.
Contrato laboral temporal.
Formación a cargo del Instituto.

Documentación requerida:

Los candidatos deberán presentar su currículo mecanografiado elaborado de acuerdo con el siguiente esquema:

Datos personales, dirección y teléfono.
Titulación académica, especificando 1º, 2º y 3º ciclo

Historial profesional:

- Cursos de formación, especificando duración en horas contenido e institución organizadora.
- Nivel de conocimiento de idioma, acreditado documentalmente.
- Actividad profesional: 1) cursos de formación impartidos, con duración en horas, contenido y entidad organizadora; 2) publicaciones: libros, artículos o ponencias, con indicación de título, contenido, editorial y año.
- Experiencia docente, especificando las instituciones, fechas y número de horas acreditadas en cada una.

El currículo y los documentos acreditativos serán enviados a la siguiente dirección: Centro Cultural Español. Mohammad Hafiz Ma'at, 10 P.O.Box 815467, Ammán, hasta el día 25.11.1993 en sobre cerrado y certificado, indicando la referencia del puesto al que se opta.

Solamente serán admitidas las solicitudes que se atengan al esquema indicado y que acrediten documentalmente cada uno de los requisitos y méritos. Los documentos en otros idiomas deberán ir acompañados de su correspondiente traducción oficial al idioma español.

World oil prices retreat to lowest since Gulf war

LONDON (R) — World oil prices tumbled again Tuesday to their lowest since the 1991 Gulf war.

They extended a decline that has taken them down almost 25 per cent this year, in a market amply supplied and haunted by none of the usual fears of a supply disruption in the Middle East or Russia.

London December futures for the world benchmark Brent Blend of crude oil fell to \$15.40 per barrel, the lowest since June 1990.

The concerns about the global economy that have undermined world share values may also be hitting the oil price.

Weak economic activity signals poor petroleum demand. Demand, in fact, has this year declined for the first time in a decade.

Latest data suggests that the

12 members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) are broadly adhering to new production quotas set from Oct. 1.

But, even as petroleum demand weakens, British and Norwegian oil production outside OPEC is rising sharply. Excess from them weighs heavily on the whole pricing structure because a North Sea crude, Brent Blend, is the marker on which contract terms worldwide are aligned.

OPEC delegation sources said Tuesday that OPEC was considering an appeal to non-OPEC producers to curb output and help it defend prices — now scarcely better in real terms than before the 1973 Arab oil embargo.

OPEC despairs of getting the free-market-driven British Conservative government to play a role. But some others

including Oman and Norway did, in the 1980s, either cut output or delay production increases.

Iran has also suggested a possible new output cut by OPEC itself when it next meets, in Vienna in two weeks' time.

Mehdi Varzi, a leading analyst who follows oil for Kleinwort Benson Securities, thinks an OPEC output cut may be needed to change the psychology of a well-supplied market that doesn't fear any immediate shortage of oil.

"The market is saying it can buy oil whenever it wants. So people will attack the price. That is the tendency when there is now news in a commodity market. You have to change the psychology. That is what OPEC ministers must address," Mr. Varzi said.

Government panel says excessive regulations hurting Japan

TOKYO (AP) — A government advisory panel said Monday that Japan must eliminate excessive regulations that reduce business opportunities and push up consumer prices.

Recommendations, submitted to Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa included ending Japan's ban on rice imports, but a government spokesman said the administration had no immediate plans to do so. Japan has insisted it needs to maintain self-sufficiency in its staple food.

An easing of Japanese regulations long has been sought by its trading partners, who consider them a barrier to entry in the Japanese market and part of the reason for their big deficits in trade with Japan.

In an interim report, the advisory group for economic restructuring, headed by business leader Gaisi Hiraiwa, said that easing regulations

would create more business opportunities and jobs, give consumers greater choice in goods and services, and reduce the steep price differences between Japan and other countries.

"I'm grateful that the report is nicely done," said Mr. Hosokawa, who made deregulation a key pledge after his coalition government took power in August, ending 38 years of rule by the scandal-plagued Liberal Democratic Party.

Mr. Hosokawa said his government will start studying the recommendations as soon as it finishes another major task — legislation intended to stop political corruption. He said the government will develop five-year deregulation plans by early 1995.

The panel, set up in September, is to issue its final report in December.

The interim report urged

and end "as soon as possible" to a list of about 500 regulations it said controlled the demand and supply of goods in Japan by limiting market access, investment, import expansion and price flexibility.

It cited regulations governing electricity and gas charges, production and sale of alcoholic beverages, and transport fares.

It also called for easing regulations in the finance, securities and insurance markets. The panel urged reducing to a minimum regulations imposed to protect safety and the environment.

The report said no "sanctuary" should be allowed in the attack on regulations, although some changes would require more time than others.

Mr. Hiraiwa, the panel's

head, told a news conference that rice imports "also should be free in principle."

Harvard Business School revamps MBA programme

BOSTON (AP) — Harvard Business School, one of the most illustrious names in management education, has joined a national movement to discard old ways of training future executives.

Under a new curriculum revealed Monday, students beginning their studies for a master's degree in business administration would focus less on specific disciplines and more on combining skills to solve problems.

For instance, instead of courses in finance and marketing, first-year MBA students would take more general courses such as "managing products and services" and "leading people and organizations."

Students would often work together in teams to solve business problems, the school said.

The proposal, which follows more than a year of internal review, was given to faculty Oct. 29, but remained confidential until this week. The faculty must still approve the changes.

"We think the needs of organizations in the future, and consequently the needs of our students to help lead those organizations, change as the world becomes more global

and rapidly moving," said Walter Salmon, an associate dean of the school.

"Furthermore, we think there will be an increased need for both individual leadership and teamwork among senior managers in the future, and we want to anticipate those needs," he said.

The Harvard proposal echoes changes occurring at schools around the country, as business leaders question the relevance of the traditional MBA programme.

In recent years, schools such as the University of Michigan, Duke University and the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania have retooled their curriculums.

"I think we have a business world that is changing very rapidly," said Milton Blood, managing director for the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business, which accredits business schools. "The schools are recognising the need to rethink what they're doing, how they're preparing students."

"The problems that graduates face don't come to them as packaged academic disciplines," he added. "Students must be able to confront problems across disciplines."

Egypt frees farm exports

CAIRO (R) — Egypt has abolished export licences and pricing committees for a range of farm products to boost exports in one of its most promising sectors, Cairo newspapers reported Tuesday.

Economy Minister Mahmoud Mohammad issued a decree Monday abolishing the licences on citrus fruits, rice, potatoes, onions, garlic, peanuts and other products, they said.

Economists identify Egypt's agricultural exports, worth \$83 million in the first half of 1993, as a major growth area. The

fertile Nile Valley can produce three crops a year and Egypt's agricultural potential is slowly being unleashed after decades of central planning and pricing policies.

Fresh Egyptian produce has penetrated Gulf Arab markets but so far has had only limited success in the huge European Community market where Egyptian exporters have found it difficult to meet fertiliser and packaging requirements.

Until now, exporters had to apply to an export committee appointed by Cairo's economy ministry for a licence for each

China's cabinet orders halt to buying of overseas companies

BEIJING (R) — China has ordered a temporary halt to overseas buying spree by its companies in an apparent attempt to stem capital flight.

The State Council, China's cabinet, has demanded "an immediate, temporary stop to domestic companies and Chinese invested companies overseas (including companies controlled by Chinese capital) investing to acquire interests in overseas companies," the official International Economic and Trade News reported in its latest edition.

The newspaper, received in Beijing Monday, said any exceptions would have to be approved by the cabinet.

Economists said the move was a clear attempt to control the vast sums of money that have moved abroad in the liberal atmosphere that has come with China's economic reforms.

"There has been a lot of money bleeding out of the country," said a Western diplomat who watches the economy. "It's a sign they're starting to get worried about it."

The newspaper did not give a date for the order and officials declined to comment immediately on the story.

The State Council order demanded "a strict implementation of the relevant financial and foreign exchange regulations" and said companies who had

used precious foreign exchange to buy stock overseas were responsible for repaying the state.

China's central government used to keep strict control over all aspects of the economy but its power has been severely weakened by the economic reforms of the past several years, which set off annual growth of 13 per cent.

Worried that the economy was sliding out of control, the government has tried since June to control the worst excesses of the new system, cracking down on unapproved investments and corruption.

Capital flight is a particular worry for China's leaders, who for years have carefully built the country's foreign exchange reserves on the back of the booming export machine in south China. This year, however, China is running its first trade deficit for four years.

There are no precise figures for the amount of money that has slipped out of the country but it is clearly immense. For example, China is probably the biggest foreign investor in Hong Kong these days.

Many large, government-controlled companies have made legitimate overseas investments.

Economic analysts believe the new regulations are not aimed at high-profile invest-

ments like the purchase of the largest iron mine in Peru by Capital Iron and Steel (now often called Shougang Corp.).

More at risk are smaller investments by Chinese companies which are less well connected, they said.

With China's economy racing ahead, the Communist Party's Central Committee meets this week to deal with the tough issues of tax, finance and banking reform.

The plenum will "take important and breakthrough reform measures, which are both timely and necessary," the Hong Kong daily Wen Wei Po, China's mouthpiece in the British colony, reported Monday.

The newspaper said the long-awaited of China's top 189 leaders would begin Thursday and pass a plan that will "provide for a stable economic and social environment."

For months, economists have worried that the rapid pace of China's growth — 13.5 per cent this year after 12.8 per cent last year — could not be maintained and would send the economy spinning madly out of control.

Then they worried that the government, fearful of an inflation that was exceeding 20 per cent year in cities, would slam on the brakes and bring growth to an abrupt halt.

French senate approves experimental 32-hour week

PARIS (R) — The French senate has narrowly adopted a proposal allowing for a four-day, 32-hour work week with reduced pay as an experiment to combat record unemployment.

The upper house approved by 149 votes to 133 an amendment to the government's employment bill, which must now go for further debate to the national assembly, where deputies rejected a similar text last month.

Under the senate measure, companies which experiment with a voluntary 32-hour week would be exempted from some payroll welfare taxes provided they used the savings to create new jobs.

The shorter work week would carry in eight per cent pay cut and would have to be applied flexibly with working hours calculated on an annualised basis.

Its adoption showed how desperately France's centre-right coalition is searching for inexorably rising jobless queues. It also illustrated that even under a conservative government, most French politicians still look to the state, rather than the market, to solve the problem of unemployment, which hit 11.8 per cent in September.

Conservative Gaullist Labour Minister Michel Giraud accepted the amendment on condition a four-day

week was not paid at the same rate as the current five-day, 39-hour week.

It was an illusion to believe that reducing working hours would solve the problem of unemployment, he said.

"The four-day week is not in the government's bill. But let me say clearly that the government is prepared to encourage all reasonable innovations," Mr. Giraud told the senate last week.

While Chancellor Helmut Kohl is telling Germans they must work more and retire later to pull the economy out of recession, French leaders are looking in the opposite direction to share available work between the haves and

the have-nots.

Advocates see "work sharing" as a potential radical cure for unemployment, while critics call it a rosy road to perdition.

Several firms are already running voluntary four-day-week experiments in France, including U.S. computer firms Hewlett Packard and Digital Equipment, in most cases to avoid redundancies rather than create additional jobs.

Politicians and trade unionists differ widely over the terms for shorter working hours.

The opposition socialist and communist parties rejected the senate amendment, saying it would force companies to cut wages to obtain state support.

Peanuts



Andy Capp



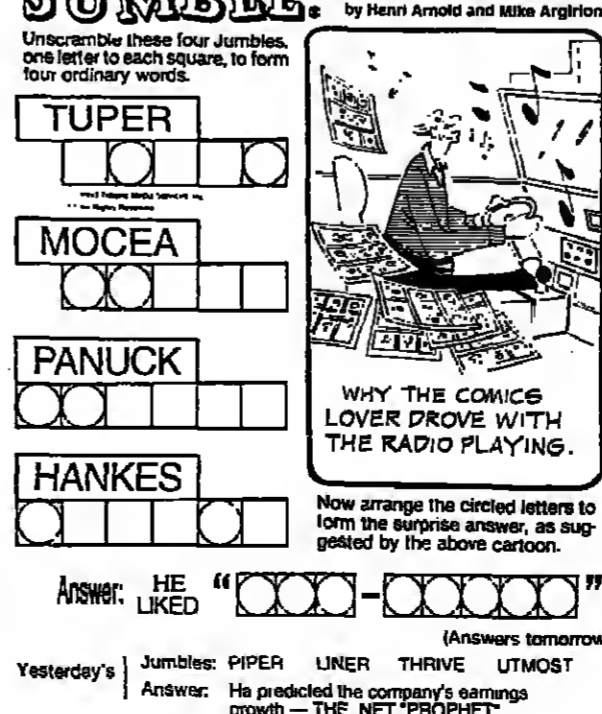
Mutt'n'Jeff



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME



TOPAZ TIGER

THE Daily Crossword by Dorothy B. Martin



Nigeria hikes fuel prices

LAGOS (AFP) — Nigeria's interim government hiked petrol prices more than seven-fold Monday to five naira (some 20 U.S. cents) per litre, catching many motorists unawares and risking social upheaval.

Drivers complained bitterly at the increase as huge queues of cars, sometimes three abreast, waited at the filling stations open in the economic capital, some of which had already begun selling fuel at the new price.

A bid by the outgoing military junta to end supplies of petrol selling at 70 kobo (2.8 cents) a litre in August and to introduce a new fuel at a much higher price led to strikes that brought much of the economy to a standstill.

Nigeria, which derives more than 90 per cent of its annual revenue from oil, loses about \$3 billion each year to smuggling and "incorrect pricing" of the commodity, according to industry officials.

Before Monday's increase, a litre of petrol, selling here for 2.8 cents at the cheapest rate in the world, went for more than 10 times that price when smuggled to neighbouring Benin, Niger, Chad or Cameroon.

Beirut reconstruction firm forecasts huge profits

BEIRUT (R) — A \$1.82-billion company being launched to rebuild Beirut's war-wrecked downtown district forecast Monday massive profits and big dividends for shareholders over the next 25 years.

The Lebanese Company for the Development and Reconstruction of Beirut Central District (Solidere) said in a prospectus for its \$650 million share offering that profits over the first five years of the 25-year project would average \$119 million a year.

Profits would peak at an average of \$590 million a year in the second five-year period

ending in 2003. Dividends were forecast at 56 per cent share annually in the first five years, reaching a high of \$41 per year in the second five-year term, the company said.

Solidere's capital will be made up of 100 million common shares of two classes:

— 11.7 million class (A) shares worth \$1.17 billion reserved for landowners in Beirut central district or those with rights as tenants there.

— 6.5 million class (B) shares worth \$650 million, the subject of the current share offering for Lebanese and

Arab investors.

Solidere will redevelop 160 hectares (395 acres) including 46 hectares (114 acres) of reclaimed land on the Mediterranean seafloor.

Plans include reconstructing Beirut's traditional souks (markets), building a new seafloor financial district, laying out parks and tree-lined roads and restoring many damaged historical buildings.

The prospectus said revenues would mainly derive from the sale of buildings and of land with building rights after it is developed and infrastruc-

ture is put in place.

A company official said additional income, mainly in the first five years, would come from interest on the \$650 million share capital.

The prospectus said net income would be fully distributed. Solidere profits and dividends will be taxed only from 2004.

The total floor space of the

buildings to be restored or constructed under the project would be 4.4 million square metres.

The company has declined to report share purchases since the offering opened on Nov. 2, but an official told Reuters many small investors had placed sums of up to \$5,000.

The biggest investor so far is millionaire parliamentarian

Nabil Boustani who told a television station he had bought shares worth \$50 million.

Billionaire Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri, who has made the project his government's main undertaking, has pledged to invest as much of his own money as is necessary to reach the \$650 million target if the share offer is not fully subscribed by other investors.

JORDAN FINANCIAL MARKET				
JORDANIAN BANK CENTER AMMAN - SHMEISANI				
ORGANIZED MARKET SHARE PRICE LIST FOR TUESDAY 09/11/1993				
COMPANY'S NAME	TRADED VOLUME	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
JORDAN BANK	40,000	162.000	162.000	162.000
JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	4,200	6.200	6.200	6.200
WILSON BANK INVESTMENT BANK	1,000	1.400	1.400	1.400
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	22,367	2.990	2.990	4.000
THE JORDANIAN BANK	4,785	2.130	2.130	5.700
JORDAN KAWAT BANK	4,785	2.130	2.130	5.700
JORDAN INVESTMENT BANK	2,608	2.850	2.850	2.850
AMMAN BANK FOR INVESTMENT	2,608	2.850	2.850	2.850
PHILADELPHIA INVESTMENT BANK	2,608	2.850	2.850	2.850
JORDAN INSURANCE	2,608	2.850	2.850	2.850
UNITED INSURANCE	2,608	2.850	2.850	2.850
JORDAN PRUDENTIAL	2,608	2.850	2.850	2.850
JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER	41,076	2.310	2.310	2.310
JORDANIAN TELECOM	2,608	2.850	2.850	2.850
JORDAN NATIONAL SHIPPING LINE	12,100	1.880	1.880	1.880
JORDAN PORT & SPA COMPLEX	5,035	1.100	1.100	1.170
NATIONAL PORTLAND CEMENTS	2,025	6.000	6.000	6.000
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT	249	1.710	1.710	1.710
JORDAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER	1,995	1.460	1.460	1.460
JOINT VENTURE BANK & COMMERCIAL HOTELS	26,700	2.200	2.200	2.200
JORDAN LINES, FOR INVESTMENT & EDUCATION	2,710	2.730	2.730	2.730
JORDAN CEMENT FACTORIES	32,442	3.080	3.080	3.080
JORDAN PETROLEUM	1,544	2.220	2.220	3.330
JORDAN PETROLEUM REFINERY	10,412	9.920	9.920	10.000
JORDAN ALUMINUM DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	12,350	7.750	7.750	7.750
JORDAN INVESTMENT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE	81,400	8.450	8.450	8.450
JORDAN CEMENT FACTORIES	13,380	7.450	7.450	7.450
JORDAN CEMENT	214	2.130	2.130	2.130
JORDAN GLASS INDUSTRIES	2,470	0.410	0.410	0.410
JORDAN ALUMINUM DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	28,820	16.180	16.200	16.000
JORDAN INVESTMENT & INTERNATIONAL TRADE	720	2.400	2.400	2.400
JORDAN ALUMINUM DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	34,430	10.200	10.200	10.400
JORDAN ALUMINUM DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	4,945	0.410	0.410	0.410
JORDAN ALUMINUM DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	3,980	5.180	5.180	5.200
JORDAN ALUMINUM DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	5,980	6.420	6.420	6.420
JORDAN ALUMINUM DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	60,629	1.280	1.280	1.280
JORDAN ALUMINUM DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	303	4.400	4.400	4.410
JORDAN ALUMINUM DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	7,277	2.240	2.240	2.250
JORDAN ALUMINUM DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	1,810	1.810	1.810	1.810
JORDAN ALUMINUM DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	2,604	2.800	2.800	2.480
JORDAN ALUMINUM DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT	6,273	2.290	2.290	2.260
TOTAL	474,745			
NO. OF TRADED SHARES IN PARALLEL MARKET	1	JD	75479	

Airlines report healthy 1993 traffic growth

GENEVA (R) — International airlines, continuing their gradual recovery from recession, Monday reported overall traffic growth of around seven per cent for the first nine months of 1993. The International Air Transport Association (IATA), grouping 221 airlines worldwide, said passenger traffic had increased by nearly six per cent in the period from January to September. Freight traffic increased by more than nine per cent in the same period. For the month of September alone, passenger traffic was up six per cent over September 1992 and freight traffic was nearly 11 per cent higher, IATA added. It said airlines hoped to break even next year and could return to profitability in 1995.

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Financial Markets

Jordan Times		
in co-operation with		
Cairo Amman Bank		
U.S. Dollar in International Markets		
Currency	New York Close Date 9/11/93	Tokyo Close Date 9/11/93
Sterling Pound	1.4810	1.4815
Deutsche Mark	1.6852	1.6849
Swiss Franc	1.4845	1.4842
French Franc	5.8680	5.8610**
Japanese Yen	107.63	107.97
European Currency Unit	1.1363	1.1376**

Inter-currency Interest Rates				
Date: 9/11/1993				
Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.06	3.43	3.80	3.68
Sterling Pound	5.75	5.43	5.44	5.36
Deutsche Mark	7.56	6.31	6.00	5.50
Swiss Franc	4.50	4.53	4.28	4.12
French Franc	6.61	6.66	6.31	5.76
Japanese Yen	2.43	2.31	2.18	2.12
European Currency Unit	7.15	7.06	6.62	6.56

Central Bank of Jordan Exchange Rate Bulletin		
Date: 9/11/1993		
Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6990	0.7010
Sterling Pound	1.0345	1.0397
Deutsche Mark	0.4146	0.4167
Swiss Franc	0.4704	0.4728
French Franc	0.1191	0.1197
Japanese Yen	0.6466	0.6498
Dutch Guilder	0.3696	0.3714
Swedish Krona	0.0425	0.0427
Italian Lira	0.0425	0.0427
Belgian Franc	0.0425	0.0427

Other Currencies		
Date: 9/11/1993		
Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.8200	1.8540
Lebanese Lira	0.040175	0.041335
Saudi Riyal	0.1850	0.1860
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2250	2.3150
Qatari Riyal	0.1896	0.1918
Egyptian Pound	0.2050	0.2220
Omani Riyal	1.7770	1.8200

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.		
One Sterling	1.4763/73	Canadian dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.2969/79	Deutsche marks
	1.6866/76	Dutch guilders
	1.8928/38	Swiss francs
	1.4858/68	Belgian francs
	35.86/90	French francs
	5.8685/85	Italian lire
	1644.6/6.1	Japanese yen
	108.14/24	Swedish crowns
	8.1280/48	Norwegian crowns
	7.3265/65	Danish crowns
	6.7065/65	
One ounce of gold	376.10/376.50	

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Proposed Russian constitution gives new freedoms, prohibits abuses

MOSCOW (AP) — Russians got their first look Tuesday at President Boris Yeltsin's proposed new constitution, which guarantees them new freedoms and prohibits many Soviet-era abuses.

Mr. Yeltsin approved the draft constitution Monday. The document, which allows him to serve out his five-year term until 1996 and strengthens the presidency, is to go before voters next month.

If approved, the new charter would replace Russia's last constitution adopted in 1977 under former Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev in an era when the Communist Party was the country's supreme authority.

The old constitution, which is still in force, also guaranteed Russians many freedoms, but in practice citizens' rights were constantly violated by the KGB, the courts, the government and even the medical system.

Newspapers were busy typesetting the 66-page document, which first appeared on the TASS news agency. Most newspapers will not be

able to publish the document until Wednesday.

The new constitution codifies much of what the now discredited legislature or Mr. Yeltsin had done by amendment or decree, such as ensuring the right to buy and sell land.

But the new constitution for the first time in clear language and sometimes in great detail outlines the rights and obligations of Russia's 149 million citizens.

Some of the new constitution's more than 137 separate articles aim to do away with the pervasive secrecy that characterised the Soviet system and to guard against intrusions by security organisations.

Article 31 states that "everyone has the right to secret correspondence, telephone calls, postal, telegraphic and other communications."

Under Soviet rule, the KGB fingered many letters between Russians and overseas correspondents as well as systematically monitoring all forms of communications by dissidents. The new constitution would

guarantee freedom of the press and forbid censorship. Foreign governments are likely to look closely at these rights, which Mr. Yeltsin restricted briefly during the political tumult in October.

Some Stalinist practices that lasted almost until the end of Soviet rule are eliminated.

The practice of "forced labour" under which millions of Soviet citizens were sent to camps in Siberia, where many perished, is forbidden. So is the custom of forcing family members to testify against each other.

The Russian government may not deprive its citizens of their citizenship, send them out of the country against their will or turn them over to a foreign government.

Soviet authorities punished many prominent dissidents, including author Alexander Solzhenitsyn, conductor Mstislav Rostropovich, and poet Joseph Brodsky by taking away their citizenship and exiling them.

Russians are now guaranteed the right to travel abroad and freedom of movement within their own country. But

authorities in many big cities still impose tight residence restrictions that date back to Soviet times.

The new constitution seeks to prevent the Soviet practice of locking up prisoners in mental hospitals and giving them debilitating by prohibiting any form of medical or scientific experiments without consent.

Although Mr. Yeltsin's proposed constitution gives Russians new freedoms, it also gives him great powers, not all of which have been clearly defined and which can be used to limit citizens' rights.

The president has the power to introduce a state of emergency and temporarily cut back on civil freedoms under federal laws which have yet to be drafted.

Under the new constitution, the president can issue decrees, which have the power of law but do not have to be approved by parliament.

Mr. Yeltsin has issued hundreds of decrees, which form the backbone of his reforms but some also have been used against his opponents.

Kashmir Muslim cleric calls for protests

SRINAGAR, India (AP) — A prominent Kashmiri Muslim cleric Tuesday called for mass protests against the Indian army siege of the Hazratbal Mosque as calm was restored in a tense area of the disputed border with Pakistan.

B.R. Kundal, a senior Kashmiri administration official, said that Pakistan had asked for the return of the bodies of four Pakistani troops whom India claims were killed in a cross-border firefight in Kashmir Sunday.

Mr. Kundal, the top civilian administrator in the Indian portion of the divided state, said Pakistani military officers met twice with Indian officers Tuesday and had asked for the return of the bodies of the four Pakistani Rangers.

Mr. Kundal said Monday that the four Pakistani Rangers were killed in a "heavy exchange of fire" with Indian Border Guards at Ramgarh, near Jammu, on Sunday and that Indian army reinforcements had been sent to the area.

A Pakistani military spokesman in Islamabad has denied that there was any fighting in the area and called the Indian claim that four Pakistani soldiers were killed "absolutely baseless."

Mr. Kundal told the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency there had not been any firing around Ramgarh Tuesday and that the situation was "well under control now."

Indian and Pakistani troops frequently exchange fire across the line of control separating the forces in Kashmir. Pakistan holds the northern third of the Himalayan region and India the southern two-thirds and the two countries have twice gone to war over Kashmir since independence from Britain in 1947.

The standoff at Srinagar's Hazratbal Mosque entered a 26th day meanwhile with no signs of an imminent breakthrough.

Some 50 armed Kashmiri Muslim separatists and between 60 and 70 Muslim worshippers have been holed up in the shrine since the complex was surrounded by Indian army troops on the night of Oct. 15.

Moulvi Abbas Ansari, a top Kashmiri Muslim cleric, accused the Kashmir administration Tuesday of dragging its feet in bringing about an end to the drama and appealed for street protests across the state Friday.

Indian paramilitary troops shot dead more than 50 Kashmiri Muslim protesters Friday, Oct. 22 when they tried to march on the lakeside shrine to force a lifting of the siege.

Mr. Ansari, who heads an umbrella organisation of militant and political groups, said the government's negotiations with the gunmen holed up inside the mosque were bound to fail.

In a separate development, hundreds of thousands of voters cast their ballots Tuesday across the Indian hill state of Himachal Pradesh in a second stage of elections seen here as crucial for Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Diana gets tough with tabloids

LONDON (R) — Princess Diana is fighting back against Britain's sensationalist tabloid press. The estranged wife of Prince Charles, heir to the British throne, Monday won a court injunction barring publication of any more "peeping Tom" health-club photos and decided to sue Mirror Group Newspapers (MGN) and a gymnasium owner involved. Princess Diana's patience finally snapped after years of often intrusive media coverage of her private life when colour photos taken by a hidden camera as she exercised in the suburban London Gym appeared in the Sunday Mirror and Monday's Daily Mirror. Lawyers acting for the princess said they would issue a writ, claiming damages from MGN and L.A. Fitness club owner Bryce Taylor, a New Zealander, who took the pictures. The decision to sue came after Princess Diana, 32, issued a statement Monday expressing distress and outrage at publication of the photos, which show her in skin-tight cycling shorts and a skimpy torso leotard. She also won a court injunction barring the tabloids from printing any more of the photos.

Senior U.S. official resigns

WASHINGTON (R) — In a sign that the Clinton administration's embattled foreign policy is beginning to take casualties, the No. 2 State Department official resigned after less than a year on the job, U.S. officials said. The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the resignation of Deputy Secretary Clifton Wharton — who is second in command to Secretary of State Warren Christopher and the department's highest-ranking black official — was believed to be effective immediately. He was offered an ambassadorship to an unspecified country but declined, saying "he wanted to move on to something else" outside of government, one senior official told Reuters. Officials said no other personnel changes were expected right now, although one administration source said: "I think there may be other changes down the road."

Senegalese elected new FAO head

ROME (R) — Jacques Diouf of Senegal was elected director-general of the United Nations biggest agency, the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). Mr. Diouf beat runner-up Geoff Miller of Australia to succeed Lebanon's Edouard Saouma who has held the post since 1975. Mr. Diouf clinched the election after the Chilean candidate, Rafael Moreno Rojas, withdrew and urged his Latin American and Caribbean backers to join the African countries supporting the man from Senegal. The 55-year-old Diouf is currently Senegal's ambassador to the United Nations in New York.

Cambodia marks Independence Day

PHNOM PENH (R) — Cambodians celebrated Independence Day Tuesday with a colourful parade and renewed calls for the radical Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction to join in national reconciliation. "We would like to appeal to the Khmer Rouge group of immediately stop killing Khmer people and destroying the Khmer nation and return to the national community," said First Prime Minister Prince Norodom Ranariddh. The radical Khmer Rouge guerrilla group, held responsible for the deaths of one million Cambodians during its 1970-75 rule, spurned the U.N.-supervised May elections and continues to wage a low-intensity terrorist war against the government. Despite the defection of more than 2,500 Khmer Rouge since June the insurgents have demanded, without success, an advisory role in the newly elected coalition government.

Taiwan charges 3 Chinese hijackers

TAIPEI (R) — Taiwanese prosecutors charged three mainland Chinese Tuesday with hijacking two Chinese airlines to Taiwan this year, recommending prison terms of eight to 12 years, court officials said. Prosecutors in the northern county of Taoyuan requested 12-year sentences for Shi Xiabo and Yang Mingde, both 30, for violating Taiwan's civil aviation laws with hijackings in August and September. There have been six hijackings to Taiwan from China since April, with the last two Monday and last Friday. Mr. Shi, a wool vendor, commandeered an Air China Boeing 767-200 to Taiwan in August. Mr. Yang, a taxi driver, accompanied by his wife and son, hijacked a Sichuan Airlines Tupolev 154 in September. Both men denounced communism and sought asylum. An eight-year jail term was recommended for Mr. Yang's wife, Han Feng-Ying, 29, as an accessory to the September hijacking.

Bush's eldest son begins campaign

HOUSTON (AP) — Republican George W. Bush began a 27-city tour of Texas Tuesday to announce his intention to unseat Democratic Gov. Ann Richards. Former President George Bush's eldest son, who served as both an adviser and confidante in his father's campaigns, said Monday his campaign would focus on education, crime and the growth of state government. "I worry about the future of our state. I think Texas is changing, and not for the best. My drive is to make the future for my kids bright. I like the Texas of dreamers and doers," Mr. Bush said at a news conference. Mr. Bush, the 47-year-old managing partner of the Texas Rangers baseball team, was born in Connecticut, and grew up in Midland and Houston. He earned a Master's Degree in business administration from Harvard and started an oil and gas exploration company in Midland. In 1978, he lost a race for Congress, and Democrats say he lacks the political experience to be governor.

Ghali: Ethnic conflicts replace cold war

WASHINGTON (R) — U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali Monday warned the United States and other major powers that ethnic conflicts around the world posed as big a threat to their security as the cold war.

In an indirect appeal for the United States to support the United Nations, Dr. Ghali said a great power need not be threatened directly before it joined multilateral action.

His speech, prepared for delivery to the National Defence University, kicked off a two-day visit to Washington, aimed in part at countering criticism that the United Nations led American troops into a quagmire in Somalia.

He intends to meet key congressional leaders Tuesday to discuss policy issues and the need for Washington to speed up payments of its huge debt to the world body.

Dr. Ghali noted that since World War II, conflicts increased to 127 wars, most of them for ethnic reasons, compared to 88 in the first part of the century.

The end of the cold war then unleashed the current wave of conflicts. The "world was not prepared for it," he said.

"States frequently make their choices on grounds of national interest, but how, short of direct foreign threat, can leaders convince their people of the need to take action?"

U.S.-China summit to help restore 'normal' ties

BEIJING (Agencies) — Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen said Tuesday an upcoming Sino-U.S. summit would return ties to a "track of normal development," but rejected any U.S. conditions on trade.

Mr. Qian said that Chinese President Jiang Zemin would not negotiate when meeting U.S. President Bill Clinton in Seattle, where an Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum meeting opens next week.

Instead, the meeting would help restore damaged relations, he said.

"The meeting...will enable the Sino-U.S. relations to enter a new phase and to embark on the track of normal development," he said.

This would allow the two sides "to move beyond the present specific differences and contradictions and to take a strategic view of the Sino-U.S. relations in the broad perspective," he added.

But the foreign minister remained firm on China's position that any U.S. conditions on renewal of its most-favoured-nation (MFN) trade status were unfair and accused Washington of failing to give up cold war pressure tactics.

"Trade is trade," he said, warning that if MFN was made conditional in progress in the areas of human rights, arms sales and trade — as Mr. Clinton has warned — "then it would be hard to maintain



KID BREAKS RECORD: Nine-year-old Agustín Ortiz, pilots his family-owned single-engine plane. Ortiz broke the Guinness world record on Oct. 28 for being the youngest pilot to fly a plane solo. The previous record belonged to an 11-year-old U.S. boy (AFP photo)

Georgia, Abkhazia troops exchange fire

MOSCOW (AFP) — Georgian and Abkhazian troops exchanged fire during the night near a bridge spanning the Inguri River which defines the border between the breakaway Republic of Abkhazia and Georgia, Interfax News Agency reported Tuesday.

It was the first report of clashes between Georgian and Abkhazian troops since late September after Abkhazian forces took control of their capital, Sukhumi, marking the end of a 14-month war that cost more than 3,000 lives.

Abkhazian leader Vladislav Ardzimba, quoted by Interfax,

said on local television that Abkhazian forces "will not permit fresh aggression by Georgian troops on Abkhazian territory."

The report, quoting the Abkhazian Defence Ministry, said Georgian forces had taken up positions along the border late Sunday a day after taking control of the western Georgian city of Zugdidi.

It said these actions were "part of a plan for a new attack by Georgian forces on Abkhazian territory."

Zugdidi was the last stronghold of rebel forces loyal to the ousted president, Zviad Gamsakhurdia, and press re-

ports Monday said he and about 1,000 of his troops had fled to the Abkhazian city of Gali about 12 kilometres north of Zugdidi.

At a news conference in Zugdidi Sunday, Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze said Georgia would retake Abkhazia either through political negotiations or by use of military force.

Mr. Shevardnadze meanwhile held secret talks Tuesday in Zugdidi with Admiral Eduard Baltin, the commander of the Russian-Ukrainian Black Sea Fleet, Interfax reported, giving no further details.

S. African government, ANC meet separately to ponder final proposals

JOHANNESBURG (AFP) — President F.W. de Klerk's government and the ANC met separately Tuesday to decide what to do if the conservative Freedom Alliance persists in its refusal to endorse South Africa's democracy process.

"We have reached a point when some formal decisions have to be made on how to move forward," government spokesman Richard Carter told AFP.

He would not disclose the agenda for the extraordinary cabinet meeting, but said "it is safe to assume that they will discuss the Freedom Alliance," as well as formulate the government's final position on key constitution issues.

The African National Congress (ANC) decision-making National Executive Council went into a huddle and an ANC spokesman said it was likely they too would discuss the alliance.

The situation remained deadlocked after the government failed late Monday after a series of meetings to entice the alliance back to the democracy talks, which are scheduled to be wrapped up by the weekend.

Democracy negotiators are putting the final touches to South Africa's new constitutional blueprint, but hopes are fading that the alliance will rejoin them to have a say in its drafting.

Monday's meetings came af-

ter a series of bilateral talks between the government and the alliance during the past two weeks — including an intensive three-day secret session.

The South African Press Association said the government would debate the issues with the ANC in further bilateral talks in order to ensure agreement by Thursday or Friday.

The alliance was formed on Oct. 7 by the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP), the Ciskei and Bophuthatwana black homelands and white right-wing groups after they withdrew from the multi-party talks in July to press their demands for a strong federalist state and a separate white homeland.

But ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus ruled out that his organisation would make any more concessions to the hardline alliance.

"The ANC has already said that there will not be any further compromises on regionalism," he told AFP.

In final concessions to the alliance in the past two weeks, the government and the ANC agreed to increased powers for the regions — a big policy shift for the basically centralist ANC — and have indicated they will go no further.

The Star newspaper reported Monday that the ANC and the government, the two main players at the negotiations, had decided to press ahead with the democratisa-

tion process with or without the alliance.

In a headline speech at the weekend, ANC President Nelson Mandela vowed the election would go ahead on April 27 as scheduled — if need be without the white right wing "and its black surrogates."

Mr. Mandela said the ANC had made enough concessions on federalism in negotiations and was not prepared to make any more.

IFP President Mangosuthu Buthelezi, a key player in the alliance, meanwhile left for an overseas trip with his two senior negotiators last week and is only due back Thursday.

Democracy negotiators said Monday that they were still aiming for a Thursday evening deadline to complete the interim constitution, but have said that talks could be extended until Saturday to finalise any "outstanding matters."

European Community (EC) foreign ministers decided to send a dozen observers to South Africa's first multi-racial general election.

The observers will be drawn from EC staff and representatives of the 12 Communist member states.

The ministers, meeting here late Monday, also said remaining EC sanctions against Pretoria would be lifted once the Transitional Executive Council was functioning there. The sanctions concern nuclear supplies and "sensitive" police equipment.

Thousands of U.S. babies abandoned at birth

WASHINGTON (AP) — Thousands of babies across the United States have been abandoned in their hospital cribs by parents unwilling or unable to take them home. They are the tiniest victims of crack-cocaine, poverty, homelessness and AIDS. They are one of the reasons why the number of American children in foster care is nearing half a million. Researchers counted 22,000 abandoned infants and "boarder babies" in U.S. hospitals in 1991, according to a draft report from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The study defines boarder babies as infants, under the age of 12 months, who remain in the hospital beyond the time when they are medically ready to be discharged. Obtained by the Associated Press, the report is the first national survey on boarder babies. The researchers said their numbers probably underestimate the problem. At Howard University Hospital in Washington, volunteers rock and feed and bathe the babies, nurses bring them clothes and toys. But as long as the babies are in a legal limbo, while social workers struggle to find them a home or a family, they cannot leave the hospital.

Court saves girl from arranged marriage

NANTES, France (AP) — A court Monday, in what is thought to be a unique ruling, reversed an expulsion order for a Moroccan woman who came to France illegally to escape an arranged marriage with an older man. The court ruled that the expulsion would "lead to exceptionally grave consequences" for Saidia Zemrou, Ms. Zemrou, 25, has said she would risk serious threats should she return to her family home in a village near Meknes. The young woman came to France in 1988 with the help of her aunt living in Nantes to escape a marriage arranged by her father to a 50-year-old man who had one wife already. For four years, she lived clandestinely. In 1992, when she tried to correct her situation, she was confronted with refusals from officials of the Loire-Atlantique region, who ordered her expelled on Nov. 2. Her lawyers contended that sending the young woman back to her home would violate the European Convention on Human Rights which states that no one can be "submitted to torture or...degrading treatment." The stipulation is usually used in political or ethnic cases. Lawyers argued that Ms. Zemrou, who received only limited schooling in Morocco, risked the wrath of her father if she returned. Her father's honour would be disgraced by her flight to France, under traditional customs.

Elvis sighted in miniature

NEW YORK (AP) — Elvis may not be living, but he's still a doll. The beloved singer is back — somewhat miniaturised — in a series of dolls depicting various stages of his legendary career. There's teen idol Elvis, decked in his Beale Street checked jacket, and military Elvis, resplendent in an army uniform (complete with authentic ribbons and crew cut). Sure to be a hit is Jailhouse Rock Elvis. Another shows him wearing the white rhinestone suit he made famous. Others feature the black leather or gold lame stage apparel he loved too. The first three limited edition Hasbro Dolls go on sale on Jan. 8 — Elvis' birthday — and the next three on Aug. 16 — the day he died. The 12-inch (30-centimetre) vinyl dolls were unveiled Monday at the company's Manhattan showroom. They're described as "fully-posable, authentically detailed." At \$50 a pop, the toymaker sees the dolls going primarily to collectors. "Most people, I imagine, won't even take it out of the box," said Larry Bernstein, president of Hasbro's toy division. There have been several Elvis dolls, the most recent was the 1983 World Doll Version. But Hasbro is hoping its attention to detail — like the 232 tiny rhinestone stars pasted on the Aloha From Hawaii Elvis' suit — will make its doll a superstar. One stage of the singer's career is noticeably missing: Elvis' fat period. "There's no point in doing that," said Jack Soden, chief executive of Elvis Presley Enterprises. "You don't see any pictures of a fat Liz Taylor promoting perfume, do you?"

Graf reaches second round in Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Steffi Graf, returning to competition after foot surgery five weeks ago, reached the second round of the Virginia Slims of Philadelphia by defeating Debbie Graham 6-2, 6-0, Monday night.

"I felt very good tonight and felt no effects from the layoff," the German star said. "I feel that I'm fully recovered."

Graf, displaying mobility on the court and applying pressure with her attacking game, led 4-2 in the first set before reeling off eight straight games to end the 50-minute match.

"I wasn't used to it, and it was a difficult time for me," Graf said of her recovery. "I wanted to get back to action."

The world's No. 1 female player said she had been in considerable pain from bone chips in her right foot but now she has no pain whatsoever.

She will next play Pam Shriver, who rallied to a 3-6, 6-4, 6-4 victory over Brenda Schultz. Shriver had broken for a 5-4 lead in the third set when Schultz, a hard server, followed a double-fault with a missed volley when close to the net.

In another first-round match, No. 2 seed Conchita Martinez advanced to the second round when Ginger

Helgeson retired because of a stomach virus. Helgeson became ill and gave up the Martinez leading 6-4, 3-1.

Amy Frazier won the opening match of the tournament with a 6-3, 6-2 victory over Gigi Fernandez. Fernandez lost on the third match point with two successive double-faults.

No. 9 Natalia Zvereva overcame the late charge of wild card Ann Miller 6-1, 7-6 (7-4). Miller tied the second set 6-6, but three wide drives cost her the tiebreaker.

Marianne Werdel prevailed over qualifier Tami Whitlinger 5-7, 6-3, 7-6 (9-7) after 2 hours, 20 minutes of fierce hitting. Ann Henricksson defeated qualifier Petra Begarow 6-3, 6-4, and Lisa Raymond defeated qualifier Chanda Rubin 6-4, 6-0.

Raymond, the former NCAA champion from the University of Florida, is a local favorite from Wayne, Pa. She reeled off eight straight games from 4-4 in the first set. She will meet Martinez in the second round.

Germany's Anke Huber became the third top-10 player to drop out of the \$750,000 women's tennis tournament as play began here Monday. Huber, ranked 10th, joins



Steffi Graf

second-ranked Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain and ninth-ranked Jennifer Capriati of the United States on the sidelines. Magdalena Maleeva, the Bulgarian rated 14th in the world, is ill and also out.

The event is a tune-up for next week's \$3.5 million championship in New York.

Bulls rebound to rout Hawks

CHICAGO (Agencies) — The Chicago Bulls, playing without retired superstar Michael Jordan and injured all-star Scottie Pippen, rebounded from a humiliating defeat in their home opener to crush the Atlanta Hawks 106-80 Monday.

B.J. Armstrong had 23 points to lead Chicago and Pete Myers — Jordan's little-known replacement in the starting lineup — chipped in 15, including a 3-pointer from beyond midcourt as the first half ended.

Myers also had seven assists for the Bulls, who were coming off an embarrassing 95-71 loss to Miami Saturday — the night they received their NBA championship rings.

Myers' 3-pointer capped Chicago's comeback from a 10-point deficit to tie the score 44-44 at the half.

Chicago broke the game open with a 19-9 run to start the second half and were up 72-59 after three quarters. They led by as many as 30 points at 97-67 with four minutes remaining.

The Bulls were playing their first game without Pippen, who was placed on injured reserve with tendinitis in his right ankle. They lost coach Phil Jackson in the second quarter when

he was ejected for arguing with the officials.

Dominique Wilkins led the Hawks with 17 points.

At Utah, Ricky Pierce's jumper from the foul line with 11 seconds remaining lifted the Seattle SuperSonics to a 101-100 win over the Jazz in a game that featured 29 lead changes.

The see-saw battle was tight all the way. The game was tied 32-32 after the first quarter and 55-55 at the half, while Seattle nursed a one-point lead at 77-76 heading into the fourth quarter.

Utah had a chance to win the game with the clock winding down, but Karl Malone's running jumper from the left wing was blocked by Michael Cage.

Jeff Malone picked up the loose ball and heaved up a desperation shot at the buzzer that bounced off the back of the rim.

Karl Malone had given the Jazz a 100-99 lead with 27 seconds left on a long jumper from just inside 3-point range.

Sam Perkins led the Sonics with 18 points, while Pierce, slowed by a sprained ankle, finished with 16.

Karl Malone topped Utah with 22 points. Tom Chambers added 17 and Jeff Malone had 15.

In Boston, Sherman Douglas led seven players in double figures with 19 points as the Celtics held off a late Milwaukee rally to beat the Bucks 108-100.

Milwaukee used an 8-2 run with just under five minutes remaining to pull within three at 93-90, but the Bucks could not close.

Robert Parish had 18 points for the Celtics, while Dino Rajda chipped in 15, coming off the bench.

Eric Murdock paced the Bucks with 22 points before fouling out late in the game, while Ken Norman, Frank Brickowski and Todd Day each scored 26.

The Bucks had outscored Boston 12-2 to erase a 10-point third-quarter deficit, but the Celtics regrouped and took a 79-74 lead into the final quarter.

Meanwhile Pippen was placed on the injured list with an ankle injury, meaning he will miss at least five games.

"Scottie is a tough kid who always wants to play. I think he's definitely a little frustrated at not being able to do what he's done in the past. Our main concern is Scottie's health," general manager Jerry Krause said Monday.

Pippen, an NBA all-star the past two years, has been recovering from off-season minor surgery on his right ankle. Pippen missed three practices last week and was limping after Saturday's game. His condition has been diagnosed as chronic tendinitis.

"It is recurrently giving him problems," said trainer Chip Schaefer.

Pippen, who scored 41 points in the Bulls' first two games — has not missed a game because of injury for five seasons.

The small forward became the third Bulls player on the injured list, joining guard John Paxson and center-forward Scott Williams, with Jordan in retirement, the only regulars from last season still healthy are Bill Cartwright, B.J. Armstrong and Horace Grant.

Pippen suffered a sprain during the 1992 Eastern Conference semifinals against the New York Knicks. He played through the injury as the Bulls won their second of three straight titles.

He then played on the Dream Team at Barcelona. He missed only one game last season and that was a suspension for fighting.

Saintly Cantona called to account for his sins

PARIS (AFP) — Eric Cantona has already been restored to saintly status at Old Trafford.

Two goals in the Manchester derby victory Sunday were enough to ensure the idolised French striker was quickly forgiven for his role in Manchester United's European Cup exit against Galatasaray last week.

Unfortunately, Europe's football authorities will not be so quick to pardon the latest sins of a player for whom the epithet controversial could have been invented.

UEFA's Disciplinary Committee meets Thursday to review Cantona's explanation of his outburst against the Swiss referee at the end of the match.

Comments made directly to Kurt Rothlisberger earned Cantona a red card but it is what he said to the press afterwards that have plunged him into really hot water.

Rothlisberger wants the player hauled over the coals for alleging he may have been bribed and UEFA could decide to ban Cantona from France's crucial World Cup qualifier with Bulgaria next Wednesday.

The Olympic Marseille bribes affair means European football's reputation has already taken a battering this year and officials are in no mood to allow Cantona to get away with his unsubstantiated allegations.

A flat denial won't save the player either for his comments were recorded by French television.

"I am certain that referees have been bought in the European Cup and I ask myself whether Mr. Rothlisberger had not also been bought on

Wednesday night," Cantona said.

It was a petulant, heat-of-the-moment outburst which was hardly consistent with the player's own admission that United had nobody but themselves to blame for their dismal display.

In the circumstances, a retraction and an apology might have been a smart move. But saying sorry is not the Cantona style.

Calling the former French national coach a "bag of shit" and screaming "idiot" in the face of each member of a Disciplinary Committee that had banned him for six months, are just two of the highlights of a career that has lurched from one crisis to another.

By the age of 25, Cantona had already quit football twice. The second time came after his ban — initially imposed for throwing the ball at a referee.

Similar histrionics were behind his first retirement. Marseille coach Gerard Gili had the audacity to substitute his star player during a friendly. Cantona responded by stomping out of the ground, pausing only to throw his shirt in Gili's face.

Little wonder then that Cantona says his personal philosophy is based on living for the moment — a creed derived from his hero, the French poet Arthur Rimbaud.

"Rimbaud had the spontaneity of a child and I believe in that," he has said. "Even in football I believe I should live as instinctively as I can."

It was instinct that brought Cantona perilously close to ruling himself out of the game for good before a chance conversation between France's

coach Gerard Houllier and Sheffield Wednesday manager Trevor Francis allowed him to resurrect his career in England.

When Francis stipulated he would need to see the Frenchman on trial before he could sign him, Cantona erupted. Insulted, he stormed out of Hillsborough only to be brought back to Yorkshire by Leeds, who he helped to the 1991-92 championship.

Adored by the fans, Cantona never saw eye-to-eye with Leeds' disciplinarian boss Howard Wilkinson and within months of the title triumph he was allowed to move to Manchester United where he became the final piece in Alex Ferguson's championship-winning jigsaw.

Last week's loss in Istanbul was a setback but one from which United are bound to learn. Ferguson's young squad is already coasting towards a second title and a lengthy reign at the top of the English game seems inevitable.

Cantona's artistry plays a vital role in the United formula. His goals, as on Sunday, are important but it is the Frenchman's superb awareness on the pitch — his ability to weigh a deadly pass to perfection — that mark him out as special while a robust physique means he is able to cope with the hurly-burly of the contemporary English game.

But while reveling in the appreciation he gets in England, Cantona is the first to admit that the game there has also been good to him.

"I had to start again from scratch. In France I had reached a stage where I had more to lose than to win. If I was good it was taken for granted, if I wasn't then I was finished."

And whatever happens Thursday, it seems unlikely that he will lose any more sleep over the latest controversy than those that already passed him by.

"You live with your past," he says. "But if you dwell on it too much you can't go forward."

coaches said to have been awarded by the ceremonies at the 1992 games in Barcelona.

Mischer and Billy Payne, president of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG), said the ceremonies will focus on the centennial of the modern Olympics, the American south and youth.

The job was given to Don Mischer Productions, whose credits include Michael Jackson's halftime show at the 1993 Super Bowl, this year's Emmy Awards, President George Bush's inaugural gala and the closing ceremonies of Liberty Weekend in 1986.

"I don't think it's fair to compare anything we've done to the task that lies ahead," said Don Mischer, president of the production company.

Atlanta, which openly yearns to be ranked among the world's elite cities, has been agonising over how it will be viewed by an international audience in 1996. Atlanta officials

Hollywood producer to manage 1996 Olympics ceremonies

ATLANTA (AP) — The opening and closing ceremonies of the 1996 Olympics, a televised spectacle that will present Atlanta to the world's television viewers and those in the stadium, will be in the hands of a Hollywood producer.

The job was given to Don Mischer Productions, whose credits include Michael Jackson's halftime show at the 1993 Super Bowl, this year's Emmy Awards, President George Bush's inaugural gala and the closing ceremonies of Liberty Weekend in 1986.

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TODAY	PHILADELPHIA JURASSIC PARK Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30	CONCORD CONCORD '1' Harrison Ford — in The Fugitive Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 CONCORD '2' The Prince Of Tides Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 6:00, 8:15, 10:15	PLAZA Eric Roberts — in Best of the Best II Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 5:00, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30	Nabil Al Mashari Theatre presents a play entitled: Al Iim Nuron A popular political comedy Actors: Abeer Issa, Daoud Jaleel, Hassan Al Shaar, Fuad Shornai In addition to other comedians Every night at 8:15 Tickets are sold all day	Nabil & Hashem's Tel.: 625153 AHLAM THEATRE The political comedy WELCOME ARAB SUMMIT Daily 8:30 p.m. The theatre closes Saturday and Sunday English synopsis available
	<p style="text-align: center;">مكتبة من الأدب</p>				

